

From: Philip Fletcher
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 10:53am
Subject: DOJ vs Microsoft Settlement Terms

Dear Judge Kollar-Kotelly

I have read with interest the proposed terms of settlement between the Microsoft and the Department of Justice.

Acceptance of these terms would send an irrevocable message to the people of both the United States and those in the rest of the world who suffer under Microsoft's immoral and (now proven) illegal practices:

Let the Punishment Fit the Crime.

The 'civilized' world objectively enforces laws on individuals when their behaviour is unacceptable in society, yet Microsoft has been able to sustain illegal business practices over many years without fear of commensurate punishment.

Respect for the Law

Although I applaud the Department of Justice in bringing Microsoft to trial these settlement terms reveal a lack of willingness or courage to apply justice when faced by a powerful opponent. How can individuals be expected to respect the law when America's largest corporation does not?

Morality Applies only to People

Harming others is OK, so long as it's in the name of business?
I work in the IT industry and am all too aware of the detrimental effect of Microsoft's business practices on many individual's livelihoods and families.

And Finally

If you have read this far: Thank You. All we (the IT community) ask, is that you seize this last opportunity to reign in a corporation that has forgotten how to behave in a civilized manner.

Acceptance of these settlement terms would be an endorsement of immoral and illegal behaviour.

Yours respectfully

Philip Fletcher

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